

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a sickle cell disease program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. SICKLE CELL DISEASE PROGRAM

Sec. 33.051. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services Commission.

(2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

(3) "Health and human services agency" means a health and human services agency listed by Section 531.001, Government Code.

(4) "Program" means the sickle cell disease program established under this subchapter.

(5) "Sickle cell disease" means any variant of sickle cell disease, including sickle cell anemia and sickle cell thalassemia.

Sec. 33.052. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The department shall:

(1) identify efforts related to the expansion and coordination of education, treatment, and continuity of care programs for individuals with sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease;

1 (2) assist the advisory committee created under
2 Section 33.053; and

3 (3) provide the advisory committee created under
4 Section 33.053 with staff support necessary for the advisory
5 committee to fulfill its duties.

6 Sec. 33.053. ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The governor shall
7 appoint an advisory committee composed of 11 members, including a
8 program administrator. The members must be located in
9 geographically diverse areas of the state and must be interested in
10 and knowledgeable about sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease.
11 In making appointments to the advisory committee, the governor
12 shall consider appointing members who are:

13 (1) representatives of a community agency;

14 (2) state or local officials responsible for public
15 health, social services, or rehabilitation;

16 (3) representatives from educational institutions,
17 including schools and universities;

18 (4) physicians and other health care providers; and

19 (5) persons with, or relatives of persons with, sickle
20 cell trait or sickle cell disease.

21 (b) Members of the advisory committee serve staggered
22 three-year terms, with the terms of three or four members expiring
23 each year.

24 (c) The advisory committee shall meet at least twice a year.

25 (d) The advisory committee shall conduct a needs assessment
26 and advise the department and the program administrator regarding
27 the needs of individuals with sickle cell trait and sickle cell

1 disease and make recommendations, including recommendations
2 regarding legislative action, department rules, and program
3 administration.

4 (e) The program administrator shall report periodically to
5 the executive commissioner and annually to the governor regarding
6 the advisory committee's activities and findings.

7 (f) A member of the advisory committee is not entitled to
8 compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for travel or other
9 expenses incurred while conducting the business of the advisory
10 committee as provided by the General Appropriations Act.

11 (g) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
12 advisory committee.

13 Sec. 33.054. GRANTS. (a) The program administrator shall
14 investigate and identify grants and other funding mechanisms for
15 entities that:

16 (1) provide education regarding sickle cell trait and
17 sickle cell disease;

18 (2) improve the detection of sickle cell trait and
19 sickle cell disease and the treatment of sickle cell disease;

20 (3) coordinate delivery of services for people with
21 sickle cell disease;

22 (4) provide access to information regarding genetic
23 testing and counseling;

24 (5) bundle technical services related to the
25 prevention and treatment of sickle cell disease; and

26 (6) provide training for health professionals
27 regarding sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease.

1 (b) The program administrator shall award grants, if
2 possible, to eligible organizations in different regions of this
3 state.

4 (c) The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and
5 donations of money from the federal government, local governments,
6 private corporations, and other persons to be used for the purpose
7 of awarding grants under the program.

8 Sec. 33.055. RULES. The executive commissioner may adopt
9 rules to implement this subchapter.

10 Sec. 33.056. EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires September
11 1, 2017.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

H.B. No. 2312

David Dewhurst

President of the Senate

Joe Straus

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2312 was passed by the House on May 3, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 135, Nays 9, 1 present, not voting.

Robert Haney

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2312 was passed by the Senate on May 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Patsy Spaw

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

17 JUN '11

Date

Rick Perry

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
4:00 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 17 2011

Boyd R. Davis

Secretary of State